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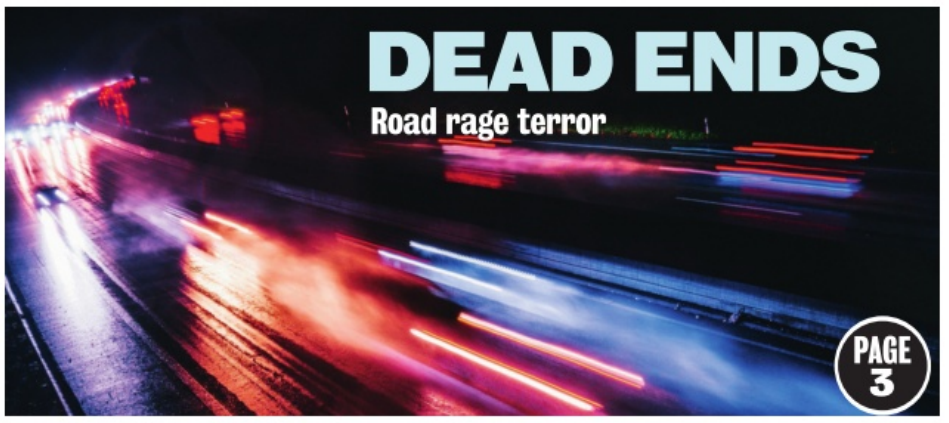
Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 27 | Min 18 | Humidity 60% Partly Cloudy Sensex 71,437 | Nifty 21,453 | Gold 62,267 | Silver 74,625 | Dollar 83.16 | Euro 91.14 | GBP 105.94



Just 2 lakes of 201 waterbodies in BBMP limits fully rejuvenated this year as activists question delay

THE SHAPE OF WATER

'30 lakes currently being rejuvenated'

HEMERSON COELHO/PEXELS

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> "Delays in encroachment clearing are leading to delays in lake rejuvenation
> — Ram Prasad, lake activist

It is not just infrastructure, lake rejuvenation work too took a hit this year. We are told just two lakes falling within BBMP limits were fully rejuvenated.

Bengaluru has 201 lakes covering 6,009.36 acres and most of them have poor ecology and are in dire want of rejuvenation. Month on month, the lakes are classified as category D and E.

However, lake rejuvenation does take place at a slow pace. In 2023, two lakes were identified as completely rejuvenated.

Activists questioned the delay and inefficiency on the part of the BBMP lakes department in carrying out lake revival.

"This year we have completely rejuvenated 2 lakes; 30 lakes are currently being rejuvenated. Beratana Agrahara and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

Crash crisis

Civic agency blames bikers for recent mishaps; commuters point to drivers using mobile phones

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There have been several fatal accidents involving BMTC buses with many attributing the mishaps to negligent driving or drivers using mobile phones.

However, the civic agency places blame on bikers for the recent accidents. A senior BMTC official offered a different perspective. He said: "If we examine previous accidents involving BMTC, we have observed that some motorists approach from the rear, and as the bus moves forward, the driver may be unaware or, even if the BMTC bus driver applies the brakes upon noticing, the bus might travel a few feet before stopping, potentially endangering the biker."

However, many commuters said they have often seen drivers engaging over the phone while driving.

Rajendra D, a regular commuter, said: "I often witness bus drivers talking on the phone while driving. Engaging in a phone conversation diverts the driver's attention from the road, leading to distraction. This distraction can impair the driver's ability to focus on traffic signals, road signs, and other vehicles. The cognitive load

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Odissi touch

Renowned Odissi dancer Madhulita Mohapatra and her troupe, the Nrityantar Dance Ensemble, are all set to present their captivating Odissi dance production. The performance titled 'Colours of Krishna' is part of the Margazhi Bengaluru by Medai. Mohapatra is known for her inventive choreographic skills and her adeptness to keep her audiences engaged. **Where: Medai-The Stage Bengaluru, Koramangala 5th Block; When: December 25 to 29**

02 One of a kind

Get ready to watch an experimental Kannada play, Project Darling, that traces the journey of performers who are out there to search for their ancestry-women performers. The play is a mix of hilarious dialogue and cultural backgrounds. It is directed by Sharanya Ramprakash and produced by Prakash Raj (Nirdigantha). **Where: Ranga Shankara When: December 24; 3:30 and 7:30 pm**

03 Comic zone

IIC is back with its new showcase of cartoons, as it is organising an exhibition by award-winning Brazilian cartoonist Silvano Mello this month. Mello's works have been published in various international publications. He has been dedicated to graphic humour since 2007.
Where: Indian Cartoon Gallery
When: until December 23

Experiencing a lingering cough? You're not alone

City docs report surge in cases of prolonged cough over last month; they say this could be due to increased virulence of viruses, which may cause damage to airway mucosa

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Geetha Rao (name changed), a resident of Yelahanka, is suffering from a prolonged cough that has lasted for more than a month now. Rao says the issue started at the beginning of November. While the 52-year-old reached out to her healthcare professional and received treatment, the cough has persisted.

"It has been more than a month. Although it was better after the first round of treatment, it reappeared with full force within a few days. My doctor has asked me to stay indoors as much as possible to reduce exposure to pollution and any form of infection," she said.

Rao is not the only one suffering from this lingering cough. Doctors at various city hospitals say many cases of prolonged cough have been reported over the last month, and the number of such patients is spiralling. Though patients are not getting too sick with low oxygen levels requiring hospitalisation, they are suffering from symptoms of persistent coughing.

"Usual flu or viral infection symptoms normally subside in a few days. However, during the last month, we have seen patients have prolonged coughs despite adequate treatment for common infections. The cough is not getting better despite routine medicines, impacting patients' sleep. This could be due to the increased virulence of viruses, which may cause damage to the airway mucosa, increasing the irritability of the airway," said Dr Manjunath PH, pulmonologist, Gleneagles Hospital.

According to some healthcare professionals, cough running a longer course is due to the combination of multiple factors such as repeated infection, cold weather, lack of social distancing, higher pollution levels, and high virulence of infection.

"Our guards are down after covid-19 restrictions were lifted. People are getting exposed to different sets of viruses and are

> **"The cough is not getting better despite routine medicines, impacting patient's sleep** – Dr Manjunath PH

catching infections faster. The opening of schools and offices and increased social interaction have led to cross-infections and prolonged coughing. By the time they are recovering from one infection, they get the next one, leading to a persistent cough. To add to that, higher pollution levels due to increased human activity and winter are further aggravating the issue," said Dr Pavan Yadav, pulmonologist, Aster RV Hospital. Doctors say winter is a peak season for various respiratory infections like the common cold, influenza, and more recently, covid-19. The cold weather can aid in the survival and transmission of these viruses, and these infections often have coughing as a primary symptom. Cold air is typically dry and can irritate the airways, leading to a cough. For individuals with respiratory conditions like asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), this can exacerbate symptoms.

PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Doctors say winter is a peak season for various respiratory infections like the common cold, influenza, and more

Patients are walking with viral infections of the nose, throat, and lungs. These include influenza, respiratory syncytial virus, adenovirus, etc. With the varying extreme weather, the allergies are exacerbated again, causing post-viral coughs lasting a long time. In some cases, these infections are followed by a secondary infection with bacteria that causes a prolonged cough.

In the case of children, the cough persists beyond 7–10 days and worsens with time.

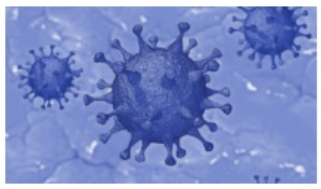
"This can be a serious issue for newborns and young infants. As it can impact their lungs, they refuse to eat or drink. Their oxygen levels can also drop, and they may need care in the hospital," said Dr Manu Chaudhary, paediatrician, Rainbow Children's Hospital.

Doctors say the condition is most prevalent among young adults and individuals over 65 years of age, particularly those with diabetes, hypertension, chronic bronchitis, and asthma. "People should take preventive measures such as wearing masks and practicing proper cough etiquette. Those with conditions such as diabetes should opt annual influenza vaccines," said Dr Sachin Kumar, pulmonologist, Sakra World Hospital.

Safety matters: 'When unwell stay at home'

While advising unwell patients to stay at home, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) also asked people to mask up if they are over 60 years of age or suffering from comorbidities. The TAC convened on Tuesday, addressing the current covid-19 scenario in the country, including the emergence of the JN.1 sub-variant in neighbouring Kerala and Tamil Nadu states, winter conditions, and expected year-end/New Year festivities. The committee strongly advocated public compliance with precautionary measures advised by both TAC and the Covid-19 State Technical Advisory Committee.

"Specifically, individuals aged 60 and above, those with comorbidities (especially related to kidney, heart, liver ailments, etc.), pregnant women, and lactating mothers are urged to wear face masks when outdoors.



They should strictly avoid closed, poorly ventilated spaces, and crowded areas. Individuals exhibiting respiratory symptoms like fever, cough, cold, or a running nose are advised to seek early medical consultation, wear face masks covering the nose and mouth, and avoid enclosed or crowded places. The emphasis is on maintaining good personal hygiene, including frequent hand washing," TAC guidelines stated.

Meanwhile, TAC recommended conducting whole genome sequencing (WGS) in various scenarios, including symptomatic individuals with international travel histories, representative samples from clusters or focal outbreaks with severe morbidity and/or mortality, and seriously ill hospitalised patients. **— BMB**

Don't panic

In a separate note, TAC experts emphasised that, according to Government of India guidelines, there is no current need for panic or an immediate escalation of cross-border surveillance (specifically in Kerala and Tamil Nadu states). However, bordering districts must remain vigilant, ensuring adequate testing and timely reporting of covid cases. Testing of all SARI cases and at least 1 in 20 ILI cases for covid-19 at private and government tertiary centres, including those in medical colleges, is recommended.

Drunk riders unleash road rage terror

Victim was slashed with machete; police going easy on culprits, allege his family

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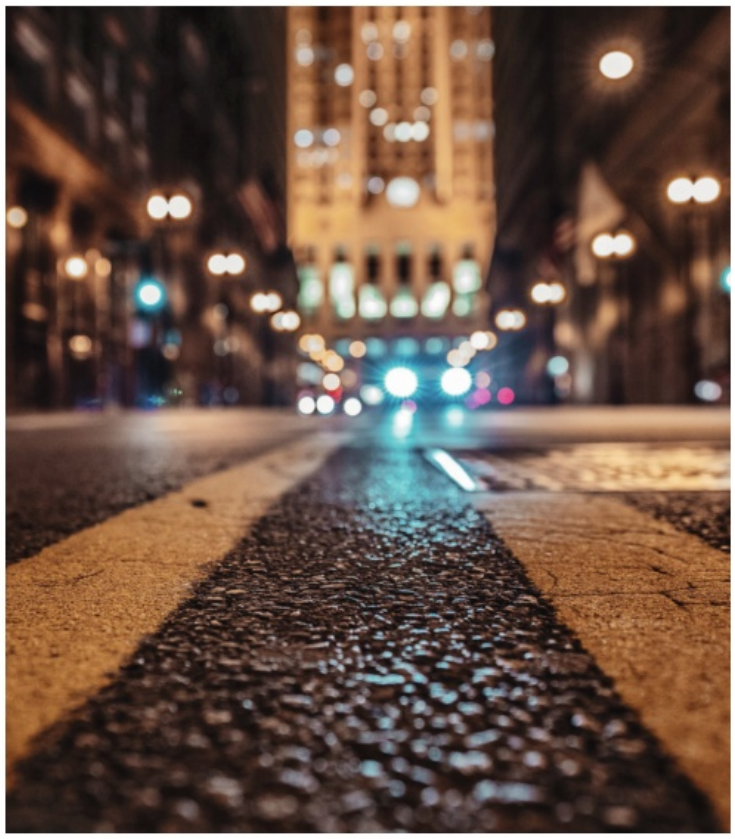
Yet another incident of road rage unleashed by two intoxicated individuals has left the city in shock.

The two miscreants, reportedly under the influence of alcohol and riding a scooter, targeted a bystander, at a petrol pump near Hebbal, on Sunday. The confrontation erupted when the victim honked at them for reckless driving.

As tensions escalated, the duo approached the victim at the petrol pump, attempting to forcefully seize the keys of his bike. In a courageous attempt to defend himself, the victim resisted, leading to the attack.

One of the attackers brandished a machete and launched a series of 4-5 slashes at the victim from behind. The victim sustained injuries to his back and arm, narrowly escaping potentially life-threatening harm.

The entire episode was captured on the establishment's CCTV camera. While the police have filed a First Information Report (FIR), concerns have been raised by the victim's family regarding the severity of the charges.



"An FIR has been filed but police have only filed it under Sections 506, 34, 324. We feel these are not severe enough given the brutality of the attack

–Ajinkya, brother of the victim

"An FIR has been filed but police have only filed sections 506, 34, 324. We feel these are not severe enough given the brutality of the attack," the victim's brother Ajinkya told BM.

The incident has left the city in shock and many took to social media to express their concerns regarding the increasing crime in the city.

"Bengaluru didn't used to be so dangerous when I worked so many night shifts between 2014-2018 and would arrive home at odd hours, on my bike; never feeling any fear or risk etc. Used to ride from Manyata Embassy Business Park to Agara Lake/Teacher's colony area. Things have rapidly deteriorated, I guess," a resident posted on Reddit.

Thieves in PG: 'Keep electronics locked up'

Commissioner of Police B Dayananda has urged paying guest accommodation owners and inmates to stay alert and keep their expensive electronic items locked up, due to increasing theft cases. The police said that throughout the city they have seen such cases being reported, where laptops and mobile phones from PGs are getting stolen.

In a recent case, Yeshwanthpur police apprehended three men, Yuvaraju, Prabhu, and Selvaraju, who had been masquerading as students to infiltrate PG accommodations. This gang from KR Puram targeted PGs, orchestrating thefts of laptops and phones.

The modus operandi involved the gang members posing as prospective PG tenants, meticulously surveying the premises when they go to scout the space. They gathered intelligence on the layout of the PG, determining which rooms on which floor held potential loot. Then, in the morning when most of the PG inmates would go to work or college, the criminals struck. Reportedly, the stolen goods were expediently dispatched to other districts in Karnataka, with Selvaraj handling the collection and sale. The accused ensured the laptops acquired in the city were discreetly sold outside the state at discounted rates.

CRIME FILES

According to the police, this operation spanned multiple police jurisdictions, with the accused successfully evading capture until the Yeshwanthpur police intervened. The authorities managed to confiscate 50 laptops and seven mobile phones worth Rs 16 lakh.

Cheats nabbed

Officers of the Economic Crime Squad of central crime branch (CCB) arrested two men for deceiving the public by making them illegally invest crores of rupees with the lure of high dividends. The authorities seized Rs 7,00,000 in cash, documents, and computer. Probe revealed the accused had invested over Rs 25 crore they cheated off 700 people and bought properties.

'Prep for local body polls to be done in 2 weeks'

The Government has informed the High Court that the preparation for conducting elections to local bodies including Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Zilla Panchayats and Taluk Panchayats will be completed in two weeks. The Government's submission before the Division Bench headed by Chief Justice Prasanna B Varale came during the hearing of a public interest litigation filed by the State Election Commission (SEC).

The SEC has challenged an Amendment by which the State Government withdrew its power to redraw the constituencies and prepare the reservation list.

A new delimitation panel was created by the State to conduct this exercise. The HC, however, clarified that the SEC was at liberty to approach the court again if it faced any difficulty from the government in completing the task. **PTI**

Extra X'Mas buses

Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) will be operating 1,000 additional buses along with the existing schedule during Christmas.

Special buses will be operated from Bengaluru Kempegowda Bus Station to Dharmastala, Kukkesubramanya, Shivamogga, Hassan, Mangaluru, Kundapura, Shringeri, Horanadu, Davangere, Hubbali, Dharwad, Belagavi, Vijayapura, Gokarna, Sirsi, Karwar, Raichur, Kalaburagi, Ballari, Koppala, Yadgir, Bidar, Tirupathi, Vijayawada, Hyderabad and other places. Special buses from Mysuru Road Bus Station will be operated towards Mysuru, Hunsur, Piriyapatna, Virajpet, Kushalanagar, Madikeri. All premier Special buses will be operated from BMTC Bus Station, Shanthinagar (TTMC) to Madurai, Kumbakonam, Chennai, Coimbatore, Tiruchi, Palakkad, Thrissur, Ernakulam, Khozikode, and other places in Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

The KSRTC has also facilitated computerised reservation of tickets in advance for the special buses. **BMB**

Over 70k cases of footpath parking booked; citizens demand strict action

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The Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) have booked 71,183 cases for footpath parking this year while 1,53,983 cases were booked in 2022. Pedestrians have called on the traffic police to increase their enforcement against footpath parking as the issue is rampant across the city, putting the lives of pedestrians at risk.

Rekita GR, student at a prominent pre-university college in the city, said, "It is hard enough to navigate through footpaths that are in a deplorable condition, parking of two-wheelers and four-wheelers make the situation worse. Building projects must not be given permits to be constructed if they do not have adequate space set out for parking of vehicles that will be used by its residents and visitors. While this is being implemented, enforcement against those who continue to park on footpaths must be strict, especially in commercial areas that receive high footfall of pedestrians."

She added that parking spaces must be set out around metro, railway and bus stations to allow commuters to park their personal vehicles without encroachment of pedestrian pathways around them.

Bengaluru this year has recorded the second highest number of deaths in road accidents in the country after Delhi. According to the latest data released by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the city accounted for 3,822 road accidents in a year which makes 5.8 percent of the total accidents recorded in India while Delhi accounted for 8.1 percent of cases. Data shows that the city recorded the highest number of pedestrian deaths in the country with 247 deaths and 822 pedestrian injuries.

As per the data, Bengaluru ranks second in the country even in pedestrian accidents after Chennai.

No space to walk

Sumangala, a resident of Attiguppe, noted that footpath parking is not the only issue when it comes to encroachment of pedestrian pathways. "Instances of homeowners considering the footpath outside their house as their own property and extending their gardens protected by gates are a common sight. Along with this, construction sites feel free to use the footpath in their vicinity to store construction material. Street vendors and eateries encroaching upon footpaths by putting out carts and tables has been called out multiple times," she explained. She suggested that the municipal body Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) must collaborate with the police department to ensure that all these hindrances are removed to ensure pedestrian safety.

8,884 cases against footpath riding

The cops have also booked 8,884 cases against riding on footpaths this year while 18,144 cases were booked in 2022. "The BBMP must incorporate strategic placement of bollards across all the footpaths to ensure footpath riding is curbed as it puts the lives of pedestrians at great risk. Delivery workers are often forced to resort to footpath riding due to their strict time schedules. There must be policy intervention to ensure that such impossible deadlines are not set on workers to avoid consequences such as footpath riding," said Abdul Razaq, a resident of BTM Layout.

Uproar over Hennagara Lake planning dispute

Development of private property risks flooding of nearby residences

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Residents urge government to acquire private land near Hennagara Lake to prevent encroachments and flooding

Although the recent incident of soil dumping into Hennagara Lake was halted by officials from the Hennagara Gram Panchayat, residents of Jigni Bommasandra Road, near the waterbody, say they are not out of the woods yet. While the lake is still awaiting a resurvey by the revenue department, a private developer has erected a banner in the area that was levelled by illegal soil dumping to raise the ground's elevation.

"After the illegal soil dumping was stopped, a government official visited the spot and ordered a resurvey of the lake. However, the very next day banner was put up claiming the land and announcing development work," said Tushar, a resident of the area.

Locals say although the survey number on which the development is proposed is private property, any construction activity on the land will lead to flooding of houses and residential areas in the vicinity of the water body.

"Even though the land is owned by the developer, Hennagara Lake's command area has increased over the last few years. While the earliest official estimate of the lake area is 700 acres, it has now been reduced to half of its original size. The lake flooded some private properties early monsoon this year. This despite below average monsoon," said Vilas Ramesh Naganur, a resident of DLF Apartment.

Residents say private land around the lake should be acquired by the government, alleging multiple encroachments leading to the waterbody shrinking in the area. They also claim that the Revenue Department has been dilly-dallying in surveying the lake area.

> **"Either the lake should be made deeper or nearby private land should be acquired to increase the lake's capacity**
>
> – Tushar Chandra, Founder, Vriksha Mitra Foundation

"Till around 5-6 years back, the lake was smaller in size, but a lot of water has started flowing in and the waterbody has expanded quite a bit. Despite below-average rainfall this year, the whole area was underwater on multiple occasions during the monsoon. After using the Dishaank app, we realised that the lake has five survey numbers and one survey number is the area that is proposed to be developed. This development will create flooding issues in the area. Either the lake should be made deeper or nearby private land should be acquired to increase the lake's capacity," said Tushar Chandra, a resident of the area and founder of Vriksha Mitra Foundation, an NGO run by a group of residents.

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9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Mind the gap!

Baiyappanahalli

There is excessive space between the platform and the footboard in Train No. 17235, and the train is not clean, emitting a foul odour at SMVT New Station in Bengaluru.

Signal reprogramming

RT Nagar

The TV Tower Junction's traffic signal needs reprogramming, as the absence of a right turn from RT Nagar to Mehkri Circle poses safety risks due to heavy traffic from the Shivajinagar side, forcing a detour.

Lake revival at snail's pace

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Konankunte lakes have been rejuvenated this year," said a official at the BBMP lakes department. Lake activist Ram Prasad told BM that the blame lies not just with the BBMP: the delay has to be attributed to the inefficiency of KTCDA as well, according to him.

"Just the BBMP cannot be blamed. The Central government fund under Amrut Sarovar is released based on encroachment clearing. As per the norm, encroachments have to be cleared before rejuvenating the lakes. While BBMP struggles to get the survey of lakes going, there is still confusion over which survey map to utilise. The Palike has chosen the 2016 survey map which represents a period post urbanisation. The correct survey maps should be uploaded in the public domain allowing the citizens to contest them. Currently, delays in encroachment clearing are leading to delays in lake rejuvenation works. Provided KTCDA was an active authority, the survey and rejuvenation could have happened with much ease. Lack of proper policy on CSR funds for lake development are also to blame. BBMP should work on preparing a proposal for the usage of CSR funds, and work towards clearing the PIL in the high court. In addressing lake pollution due to entry of sewage and effluents, KSPCB has been totally inept; only the detailed reports being published has been a positive outcome," he added. Lake activists are of the view that rejuvenation is becoming synonymous with a lack of transparency in fund expenditure.

"Kengeri Lake was first under the administration of the forest department, then with the BDA, and later with the BMRCL; now it is under BBMP administration. Crores of rupees were sanctioned but hardly 20% of lake revival work is done. Likewise, the Halagevaderahalli Lake was rejuvenated in 2017 at Rs 2.5 crore; In September 2022, work started again. In the name of rejuvenation, all the existing stones used for embankment are being removed. Hennagara Lake in Jigani is being filled with construction debris. We don't know why the Palike picks up projects it cannot complete," wondered Joseph Hoover, a lake activist. Other activists added that slow pace can be attributed to understaffing. "Organisations like KTCDA are understaffed. Contractors brought in for lake rejuvenation are not used to strict deadlines leading to slow work. Lake work must be taken up in consultation with water experts. Desilting and rejuvenation have to be done scientifically and as per detailed project reports. BBMP must make efforts to arrest effluent entry into lakes," said Vinod Jacob of Namma Bengaluru Foundation. Meanwhile, lake activists closely observing Varthur and Bellandur lakes told BM that the current government's focus is on infrastructure. "We had expected this slow pace. Currently, the government is looking at addressing infrastructural issues. Varthur and Bellandur lakes need wider diversional channels. Every time it pours, it overflows into the lake. Currently, no work is happening at the lakes. Nearly 200 streetlights and CCTV cameras were installed but many are not working. Varthur and Bellandur lakes were allocated Rs 575 crore; at best, Rs 110 crore would have been used so far," said Jagadeesh Reddy of Varthur Rising. Lake activists noted that apart from rejuvenation, efforts must be taken to fence and guard the waterbodies.

"Most of the lakes have fencing and guarding issues. Development work should be taken up with proper survey. Efforts must be undertaken for ecology-centric development rather than optical changes," said lake activist Raghavendra B Pachhapur.

What's behind BMTC bus mishaps

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of holding a conversation on the phone can slow down a driver's reaction time, increasing the likelihood of accidents in critical situations. Multitasking, like talking on the phone while driving, can compromise a driver's decision-making abilities, affecting judgments related to lane changes, turns, and unexpected events. Continuous phone conversation may cause the driver to be less aware of their surroundings, challenging their ability to anticipate and respond to potential road hazards. The combination of distracted driving, reduced reaction time, impaired decision-making, and decreased situational awareness significantly elevates the risk of accidents. Bus drivers, responsible for the safety of numerous passengers, should avoid distractions as any compromise in attention can lead to severe consequences."

Transport department officials have urged BMTC to ensure that drivers refrain from using mobile phones while driving, as many are engaging in rash driving.

A BMTC official said: "We have conducted intensive training workshops on accident-free and safe driving practices for divisional controllers across six zones of the organisation — East, West, North, South, Central, and North East zones — for driving staff under their purview. In November, workshops were held at Hoskote bus stand, Challaghatta workshop, North Zone Puttenahalli depot, Central Zone depot 25 (HSR Layout), South Zone Kalasipalyam bus stand, etc. During these workshops, experts interacted with drivers on safety driving. Furthermore, training is provided by divisional controllers, divisional traffic officers, divisional mechanical engineers, depot managers, and traffic resource persons. With approximately 10,000 drivers in the organisation, about 1,800 have received training in accident-free and safe driving practices within 35 days, following a rate of 300 drivers per day. Eye check-ups and health check-up camps are also conducted for the drivers on this day. The main objective of BMTC is the safety of passengers and the public, and all driving staff and officers are working towards this goal."

BBMP gears up for white-topping

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In a new phase, BBMP has decided to white-top 61.12 km of road at a cost of Rs 754.74 crore. Just days after Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar announced a discussion with Bengaluru legislators to discuss the white-topping of roads, BBMP has announced a plan. BBMP now plans to white-top 61.12 km of road stretches across Bengaluru. The longest stretches of white-topped roads will be built in Sarvagna Nagara and Pulikeshi Nagar constituencies, stretching over 8.7 km, followed by Gandhinagar and BTM Layout constituencies with 7.44 km of white-topped roads.

The white-topping plan has been extended to 16 constituencies within Bengaluru. While the state budget had allocated Rs 1,000 crore for white-top roads, the current phase is estimated to be Rs 754.74 crore.

Palike has called for a tender for the preparation of a detailed project report (DPR) for white-top roads. Tenders have been called for 16 constituencies in 9 packages. The DPR work is expected to cost Palike Rs 75.9 lakh.

As part of the DPR work, the bidder would have to assist in preparing detailed designs and engineering reports for the comprehensive development of the roads by providing white topping on urban roads for safe modes of travel for vehicles, NMT, public transport, and pedestrians. The consultant shall study and recommend the improvements needed on these roads, additional facilities, and infrastructure required after ascertaining through a detailed study/analysis of their technical, social, and economic viability.

It shall also include a comprehensive corridor-wise study of the existing traffic situation, traffic intensity, movement pattern, available road infrastructure, road right of way, pedestrian and bicycle (NMT) demand, traffic signalling system, future perceived traffic growth, road geometry, topography, detailed design, and cost estimation.

BBMP decides to white-top 61.12 km of road stretches across Bengaluru at a cost of Rs 754.74 crore

However, environmental activists say that ecological impacts must be considered before taking up white-toppping work. "Palike officials are pursuing white-top work because it constitutes a lion's pot of corruption. We don't understand why a good chunk of the budget is spent on white-topping roads when there are so many issues pending. A few stretches of the city cannot receive more attention. Projects have to be devised in the greater interest of the entire city. White-topping of roads also leads to reduced water recharge, flash floods, and environmental impacts," said Dr AN Yellapa Reddy, an environmentalist.

Vet clinics in transit

Govt decides to move 27 veterinary clinics from B'luru Urban to rural areas; activists say relocation of clinics will affect people from poor and middle-class families who own pets

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KAUSHIK JN

Experts say that Veterinary Hospital, Jayanagar, plays a role in treating nearly 1,500 cases per month

Here is bad news for dairy farmers, cattle owners, and animal activists. The state government has decided to relocate 27 veterinary clinics as the cattle count is less than 1,300 within the jurisdiction of these clinics. However, animal activists demand the state government reconsider the decision as many dairy farmers, cattle owners, and pet owners, especially those from poor and middle-class families, depend on these veterinary clinics for the treatment of cattle and pets.

There are 101 veterinary clinics in the city and 103 veterinary clinics in Bengaluru Rural District. According to the National Commission of Agriculture (NCA) norms, for every 5,000 cattle units, there needs to be a veterinary clinic. The Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department, in an order, stated that the cattle units are less than 1,300 under the jurisdiction of 27 veterinary clinics in Bengaluru Urban District. The order stated that these veterinary clinics would be relocated to rural areas where there is a demand for them.

Demanding the state government withdraw the order immediately in the interest of pet owners and dairy farmers, Arun Prasad, an animal activist, said the state government's order would benefit private veterinary hospitals.

"The relocation of veterinary clinics will affect people from poor and middle-class families who own pet animals and cattle. It will be difficult for them to pay hefty fees for treating their pet animals and cattle at private veterinary hospitals or clinics," he said.

The relocation of the veterinary clinics is against the court order, and the need of the hour is the resignation of the Animal Husbandry Minister as he failed to work for the welfare of cattle and animals, he added.

As per the order, nine veterinary clinics situated at Talaghattapura, Jayanagar, Byatarayanapura, Konanakunte, Gottigere, Adugodi, Domlur, and Byrathi in Bengaluru South, Kalkere, K Narayanapura, Kalkere, Gunjur, Halanayakanahalli, Kadusonnappanahalli, Tharahunase, Gantiganahalli, Devasandra in Bengaluru East, and Prakash Nagar in Bengaluru North are to be relocated at different locations across the state.

Kumar CN, a social activist, said the Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department claims these clinics are underutilised. "In the case of the Jayanagar Clinic, parents of pet dogs and cats who cannot afford private clinics get their pets vaccinated and treated there. Besides this, there are a large number of cow owners in Siddapura, Kanakanapalya, Yediyur, and surrounding areas who take their animals for treatment there. The clinic is usually crowded during the day," he said.

Furthermore, AS Nagarajan of Jayanagar Canine Squad informed that he wrote a letter to the Minister for Animal Husbandry, appealing to him to reconsider the relocation of veterinary clinics.

"Recently, we have become aware of a proposal to close down the Veterinary Hospital, Jayanagar, and this news has raised serious concerns among our squad members and the public. Veterinary Hospital, Jayanagar, plays a pivotal role in treating nearly 1,500 cases per month involving various types of animals in South Bengaluru. Its proximity is of immense benefit to our squad members and the public, who have grown accustomed to the facility and appreciate the high standard of treatment it offers," he said in the letter.

> **"Parents of pet dogs and cats who cannot afford private clinics get them vaccinated at Jayanagar clinic**
> –Kumar CN, a social activist

IN BRIEF

Forced abortion lands man in dock

Police have filed a case against a man for allegedly coercing his partner into having an abortion in Bengaluru, as stated by the police on Tuesday.

The victim posted about the incident on social media accounts, tagging Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, Hassan District Police, and Bengaluru Police Commissioner.

In her post, she claimed to have been in a six-year-long relationship with the man. She alleged that the accused forced her into physical intimacy and compelled her to undergo an abortion.

She further claimed that he had taken away her money and that they were living together in Bengaluru. The accused had reportedly married another woman and settled in Agalatti village in Hassan district.

In her appeal to the authorities, she urged them to consider her as their daughter and sought justice by punishing the accused. **IANS**

Students stripped at Bidar school

The Karnataka police arrested a physical education teacher attached to a private school under the POCSO Act on Tuesday for allegedly making the students strip and then beating them. The incident had taken place within the limits of the Humnabad police station in Bidar district. According to the police, the teacher engaged in this act as punishment for students causing disturbances in the classroom. The accused teacher subjected the students in the 9th and 10th grades to this ordeal. The students reported that the teacher not only abused them but also threatened them with consequences if they disclosed the incident to anyone. However, the parents noticed injury marks on their children's bodies and learned about the incident. Subsequently, the parents filed a complaint with the police, leading to the arrest of the teacher. **IANS**

Breaking the silence on period policy

Students advocate for inclusive period policies in educational institutions

During a recent debate in the Parliament, Union Minister Smriti Irani sparked a discussion on menstrual leave. In fact, the Minister expressed opposition to the concept of paid leave, stating that menstruation is not a handicap but a natural part of a woman's life journey. This statement is now widely debated, even in college corridors, where a section of students demands that female students deserve menstrual leaves.

"In a society that already considers menstruation a taboo subject, there is a rising demand for a period policy to be implemented in educational institutions. This issue has not only questioned the impact it has on the attendance of female students but also highlighted the need to implement a period policy in educational institutions. Menstruation, or periods, is a natural process that every girl goes through for several years of her life. There are days when they can't get up from bed and do daily chores due to cramps, backaches, vomiting, and various other issues. Despite these challenges, young girls and women continue to suffer in silence as they face difficulties attending school or college during their menstrual cycles, especially on the first and second day," said Kavya (name changed), a girl student studying in a city-based engineering college.

Giriyamma D, a college lecturer, said, "Many young girls and women tend to miss school or college on the first and/or second day of their menstrual cycles, and this happens on a monthly basis. This drastically affects their attendance percentage, and they are sometimes denied the opportunity to write exams due to the shortage of attendance."

Anshu, a student, added, "It's absolutely a topic that we need to break the silence about. It's not unknown that we women go through an emotional rollercoaster and have our own share of tough days every month. Despite this, I believe not being considered as a special case or an exception is only making us stronger and much more driven. I do not expect special leaves to be granted, because every time I have had to face an issue, my teachers have always been considerate."

She further added that the implementation of a period policy in educational institutions will allow female students to carry out their academic duties and take care of their health at the same time.

"It's not only a matter of fairness but also an important step in promoting gender equality. They contend that recognising menstruation as a natural and essential aspect of women's lives is a crucial part of providing equal opportunities in education. They can also help in reducing the stigma about the topic, making institutions a more student-friendly environment," Anshu said.

— Sanjana Rao

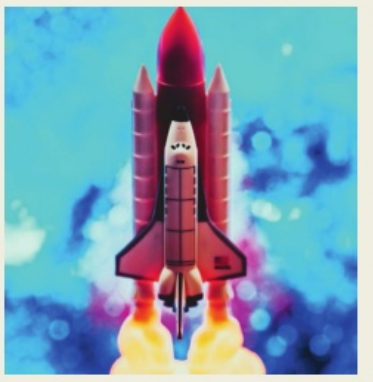
Bengaluru students shine at HLCA

Sixteen students from Bengaluru recently participated in the annual Honeywell Leadership Challenge Academy (HLCA) at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center (USSRC) in Huntsville, Alabama. These students were part of the college readiness program organised by the non-profit Carolina Youth Coalition.

The two-week-long programs, held from October 15 to October 20 and October 22 to October 27, 2023, aimed to inspire high school students aged 16 through 18 to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). The activities included hands-on experiences in coding, computer science, leadership and communication skills, and astronautics.

During the program, participants engaged in various team-building challenges, including building, coding, and testing rockets, simulated astronaut training, shuttle missions, and a low-gravity moonwalk. The immersive experience allowed students to enhance their STEM leadership skills while also using computational thinking and computer science to strengthen their digital skills.

The ultimate goal of the program is to equip students with the skills and forge relationships that will prove beneficial as they face new and unique challenges in their future endeavours.



UGC: Approval needed for foreign degrees offered in India

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has clarified that no foreign Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) can offer programmes in India without its prior approval. According to UGC Chairman Professor M Jagadesh Kumar, no foreign HEIs can conduct programmes in India without obtaining prior approval from the Commission. The regulations explicitly state that any foreign HEIs must seek approval from the Commission before offering any programme in India, as outlined by Kumar.

The UGC has become aware of numerous HEIs and colleges engaging in collaborative agreements with foreign educational institutions that lack recognition from the Commission. Such institutions are facilitating the issuance of degrees to enrolled students, but degrees obtained through these collaborations are not recognised by the UGC.

Kumar further emphasised that any collaboration or arrangement not recognised by the UGC will result in the degrees issued through such means lacking recognition from the Commission. The UGC has also noted advertisements by some EdTech companies in various media, promoting degree and diploma programmes online in association with foreign universities. Kumar clarified that such franchise arrangements are not permissible, and degrees obtained through these partnerships will not be recognised by the UGC. He warned that action will be taken against defaulting EdTech companies and HEIs under applicable laws.

In the interest of public awareness, Kumar advised students and the general public to exercise caution, emphasising that degrees obtained through these unauthorised collaborations do not have UGC recognition. He further informed the public and concerned stakeholders that the UGC, exercising its powers under the UGC Act, 1956, has notified the Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign HEIs to offer Twinning Programmes, Joint Degree, Dual Degree Programmes Regulations, 2022, and University Grants Commission (Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India) Regulations, 2023.

Kumar concluded that universities are not allowed to offer programmes through franchise arrangements.

— Sridhar Vivan

Don't evict, first conduct survey: Vendors' protest

BBMP failed to carry out its responsibility of conducting survey, say city's street vendors

Y Maheswara Reddy
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KAUSHIK JN

Street vendors gathered outside BBMP office urging authorities to halt evictions

Hundreds of street vendors gathered at Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Head Office premises on Tuesday demanding the BBMP authorities not to evict street vendors and to allow the ones who were evicted to carry out business from the same location.

Vinay Srinivasa, executive member of the Federation of Bangalore District Street Vendors' Associations said the BBMP authorities, who are supposed to support street vendors, have been evicting them and it is against the norms.

"The BBMP has to conduct a survey on street vendors in the city. The civic body failed to conduct the survey in February. It is the responsibility of the BBMP to conduct a survey after forming the vending committees but to date, the BBMP has not conducted the survey," said Srinivasa.

It may be recalled that the BBMP conducted a survey of street vendors in 2017 which identified 25,000 street vendors in the city and provided identity cards for around 18,000 of them. The BBMP is supposed to conduct a survey of street vendors once every five years.

"We have submitted a memorandum to the Special Commissioner (Social Welfare) to consider our demands. The Special Commissioner has assured us to arrange a meeting with the BBMP Chief Commissioner next week," said Srinivasa.

> **"It is BBMP's responsibility to conduct survey after forming vending committees but to date, it is not done** –Vinay Srinivasa, Federation of Street Vendors Association

With no survey held, the BBMP did not take measures either to renew the ID cards or issue ID cards to the street vendors that were not covered by the survey held in 2017. Among the street vendors gathered at the BBMP Head Office, around 3,000 street vendors have applied for ID cards.

They demanded that the BBMP authorities make arrangements to accommodate the street vendors at the same places of Jayanagar, Madiwala, Mahadevapura, Banashankari, Moodalapalya and other places from where they were evicted. They also asked for a survey of street vendors to be conducted under the supervision of town vending committees and for no street vendor to be evicted till the survey is completed.

Earlier, members of Karnataka Street Vendors' Federation met BBMP Special Commissioner (Social Welfare) Babu Shankar Reddy on Monday and asked the BBMP to follow the Delhi model while conducting the survey on street vendors.

"We demand a comprehensive survey on street vendors in the city. I have made it clear to the BBMP authorities to utilise the available funds for conducting the survey on par with Delhi Municipal Corporation," said Town Vending Committee (TVC) member and Karnataka Street Vendors' Federation president, CE Rangaswami. When contacted, the BBMP Special Commissioner said the BBMP would conduct the survey shortly.

"We are planning to utilise the in-house staff to conduct the survey on street vendors."

Kharge as INDIA's PM face: Let's win first, says Cong chief

West Bengal Chief Minister and TMC supremo Mamata Banerjee and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday proposed Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's name as the opposition INDIA bloc's PM candidate, saying he could be the "first Dalit prime minister" of the country, but no decision was taken on it.

Several leaders, including MDMK leader Vaiko, confirmed this after the meeting of the opposition grouping and said Kharge told the leaders that it is important to win first and increase the strength of the alliance while everything else can be decided later.

Though Kharge's name was proposed with several leaders backing him, no final decision on the issue was taken during the meeting, sources said. After his name was proposed as a candidate to become the country's first Dalit prime minister at a meeting attended by leaders of 28 opposition parties, Kharge said, "I work for the downtrodden. Let's win first, then we will see. I don't seek anything."

"We have to first win, and who will be the prime minister is a matter to be decided later. First, we have to get a majority and increase our strength, then MPs will decide democratically," Kharge later told reporters when asked if his name was finalised as the PM face of the opposition alliance.

Kharge also alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was showing "arrogance" after the recent victory in assembly polls "as if they will be in power forever". – PTI

No need to change school timings & factory working hours to control traffic, State tells HC

These establishments not the only causes for traffic congestion, says state government

The Karnataka government has submitted in affidavits filed before the High Court that it was not necessary to change school timings and working hours in factories to control traffic in Bengaluru as they were not the only causes for congestion.

The affidavits by the Education and Labour Departments were filed after extensive consultation with stakeholders.

The HC recorded the submission and adjourned the hearing of the PIL to January first week.

In the affidavit filed by the Principal Secretary of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ritesh Kumar Singh, it has been stated that there was no need for any changes in school timings in Bengaluru.

The report said that the traffic congestion is not solely due to school hours but is affected by the overall movement of vehicles to and from various institutions, industries, and other locations.

Initiating changes in school timings without addressing the overall traffic scenario may lead to adverse consequences, disrupting the scheduled time for sleep, meals, and other essential activities for the students, the affidavit said.

However, suggestions for decongesting roads near school and colleges were provided in the affidavit including specifying designated pickup and drop points for students, deploying traffic police and wardens during the school commencement and conclusion time and providing Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) bus services for students.

The affidavit by Principal Secretary, Department of Labour, Mohammad Mohsin stated that there was no need to change the working hours in factories as they were not the sole cause of traffic congestion. The affidavit states that workers travel between 6 am and 9 am and travel back after working hours.

The State has however suggested several measures to avoid traffic congestion including encouraging hybrid working by companies on the Outer Ring Road.

The affidavit was filed in response to the recommendations given by the High Court regarding the modification of school, college, and factory timings to regulate traffic congestion in the city.

The PIL filed by 'Samarpana Trust' was heard by Chief Justice Prasanna B Varale and Krishna S Dixit. – PTI

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I, Mohammed Zakriya Abdul Rasheed R/at No.3, 3rd Floor, SF-1, Royal Arcade No.21 & 22, 6th Cross, 22nd Main, J P Nagar, 5th Phase, Vinayaka nagar, Bangalore-560078 have changed my name to Mohammed Zakriya, affidavit dated 19.12.2023 before notary V.Rajashekhara, B.lore.

I, SUBRAMANI THANGAVEL S/o Thangavel, R/at New No.62/4, Achara Bande East side, Behind Railway Quarters, Devasandra, K.R.Puram, Bangalore-560036 have changed my name to SUBRAMANIAN THANGAVELU, vide affidavit dated 18.12.2023 before notary K. B Sadhashivappa, B.lore.

I, Maruthi Kumar Mariyappa, S/O MARIYAPPA, residing at 134, Asha Township 2nd Phase, Doddagubbi, Bengaluru 560077. I have changed my name to MARUTHI KUMAR DODDAGUBBI MARIYAPPA Vide affidavit date: 19.12.2023. Sworn bfr Notary: Devaraja E.

I, Shaik Muyuzammil S/o Shaik Pyarejaan R/o Salipete, Ward 22, Chintamani, Chikkaballapur 563125 have changed my name to SHAIK MUZAMMIL affidavit Dt.19/12/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I Ramya Mudambi Ravi R/a # 430, Neralu, 16th Cross, KPC Layout, Kasavanahalli, B'lore-560035, have changed my name to Ramya Sharma vide affidavit dt 19.12 .2023, before notary B.M.Chandrashekar

I, Reema Nayaz W/o Shabuddin Shariff R/o #008 Flat No-201 2nd Floor , A R Mansion 6th Cross, Someshwar nagar jayanagar 1st Block B'lore-560011 have changed my name to Reema Shariff.

I, Anand Jangada have changed my name from Anand Kumar Jangada born on 01/12/1988 residing at Fort Road Warkar St Koppal 583231 vide affidavit dated 18.12.23 at Blr.

I Bibi Ameena Mohammed Salahuddin W/O, Mohammed Salahuddin Damda R/o No 45 Gulerukh K H B Colony Bhatkal Uttara Kannada, Karnataka have changed my name to Bibi Ameena.

I Amanda Melvil Dsouza D/O, John Melvil Dsouza R/o Casilda No 400, 2nd Main, 14th Cross , Mahalakshmi Layout Bengaluru 560086 have changed my name to Amanda Dsouza.

I Yuvaraj K S/o Kumar R/o 2/153,Jaibeem Nagar,sipcot, Zuzuwadi Hosur, Indi Complex, Krishnagiri 635126 have changed my name to Yavaraj Kumar for all purposes

I Cinthiya Keziah D/o Isravel Rajan, Banaswadi, Bangalore have changed my name from Cindiya Kebsiyal to Cinthiya Keziah for all future purposes

I, Vidya Shree Bheemareddy W/o Bhuvanesh Jagadish Reddy. R/o No 128, Kodathi Gate, Mulluru B'luru-560035 have changed my name to Vidhyashree for all purposes

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VIOLENCE AT HOME

Trauma, social isolation may play a role in why some men commit domestic violence

Support for survivors of domestic violence is important, but to end domestic violence once and for all, society needs to understand the people who perpetrate it and how to successfully intervene.

Domestic violence is very common in the United States. Nearly half of women and men in the US experience sexual or physical violence, stalking or psychological harm or coercion in a romantic relationship during their lifetime.

Domestic violence is also experienced unevenly across the U.S population. Young people are most vulnerable, with nearly three-fourths of female victims reporting that their first experience of domestic violence occurred before age 25. People of colour and LGBTQ+ people also experience considerably higher rates of domestic violence than the national average. And despite similar rates of domestic violence across men and women, women report more severe effects on their lives, including higher rates of injury and need for medical care, needing help from law enforcement and post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms.

I am a social worker who has spent the past 10 years studying how men come to use violence against their intimate partners, since the effects of their violence are often the most severe. My research has found that consistent supportive relationships with attentive adults in childhood and adulthood, along with stress management that takes trauma into account, are two promising approaches to prevent domestic violence.

The roots of domestic violence

Understanding how someone comes to perpetrate violence is necessary to stop violence from happening in the first place.

Certain childhood experiences can put people at risk of committing domestic violence in the future. Researchers have found that child abuse, neglect and a negative parent-child relationship are significant risk factors that may lead someone to later perpetrate domestic violence.

Experiencing trauma in early childhood can alter the brain, how the body responds to stress and whether someone sees the world as a threatening, harmful and untrustworthy place. For example, research has shown that people who have been exposed to trauma studies have increased activity in the amygdala of the brain, resulting in heightened fear and arousal that can lead to aggressive responses in the face of conflict and stress. Trauma exposure is also linked to a decrease in activity in the prefrontal cortex – that's the part of the brain responsible for impulse control, concentration and emotional reasoning. These are essential qualities to navigate interpersonal relationships.

Toxic stress – excessive or prolonged activation of the body's stress response – happens when someone encounters constant threats to their physical or mental safety during sensitive developmental periods. Compared to their peers, youth facing disproportionate levels of hardship and threats of poverty, racism and other structural inequities are at greater risk for toxic stress. These bodily changes can set kids up for PTSD, depression, and alcohol or drug abuse later in life, which are some of the most common risk factors of perpetrating domestic violence. One study found that nearly one-third of men in a domestic violence intervention program reported clinical levels of PTSD.

Beliefs about traditional gender roles dictating how men and women should act is another significant contributing factor to domestic violence. Unresolved trauma mixed with rigid gender views can limit the coping skills and tools people have to navigate complex emotional challenges in romantic relationships. For example, homes that promote rigid gender scripts, such as "boys don't cry," and limit opportunities to learn from activities that are considered "feminine," like caring for baby dolls, can stunt the emotional expression of boys and make them less skilled in recognizing emotions in others and themselves. Anger typically becomes the most accessible emotion.

Certainly not all people who have faced childhood adversity and trauma are destined to perpetrate violence. Studies show that a secure parent-child attachment and the presence of safe, nurturing relationships and environments during childhood protect against future violence. Positive childhood experiences, such as feeling understood in difficult times and having at least two nonparental adults taking interest in your life, can help. One study of over 6,000 adults in Wisconsin found that those reporting three to five positive childhood experiences were 50% less likely to have depressive symptoms or poor mental health days compared to those who had fewer or no positive childhood experiences.

Without these protective factors, however, many children are at risk of carrying their trauma into their adolescent and adult romantic relationships.

Prevention and intervention

Supporting the health and well-being of society calls for research-based efforts to prevent and address domestic violence. Responsive relationships, or relationships where the other person is attentive, attuned and supportive, are a key way to improve the well-being of children and adults, including the mental health of survivors of abuse.

Researchers are paying more attention to the dangers of social isolation among adults. This has been exacerbated by cultural shifts stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, remote work and social media. Social isolation and unhealthy social networks can be dangerous for victims of violence and damaging for someone prone to committing violence because they can worsen mental health conditions like PTSD. Community-based programs that build supportive social networks have the potential to improve mental health risk factors for perpetrating violence.

Most domestic violence intervention programs for men have not incorporated the understanding that trauma registers in the body as much as it does in someone's way of thinking. These programs mostly focus on unlearning abusive tendencies and relearning healthy ways of engagement. This kind of approach includes using workbooks and thought exercises to identify abusive behaviors and thoughts about subjugating women, understand why they're harmful, and learn healthy ways to resolve conflict.

However, focusing on cognitive thought processes as the primary mechanism for change by itself is insufficient for lasting change. In order to meaningfully alter the effects of trauma, interventions must also engage autonomic brain processes.

Interventions that focus on regulating stress and emotions, such as deep breathing and mindfulness, can help address physiological symptoms of trauma and reset the body's stress response. Resetting the body's stress response can then help people engage in the higher-level learning necessary to adopt non-violent thinking and behaviors and discard abusive tendencies.

Alleviating symptoms of PTSD and trauma in people who have perpetrated domestic violence may help them identify key triggers and develop the coping skills to respond to stress in healthier ways instead of violence.

Laura Voith, Case Western Reserve University, The Conversation

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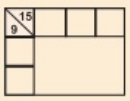
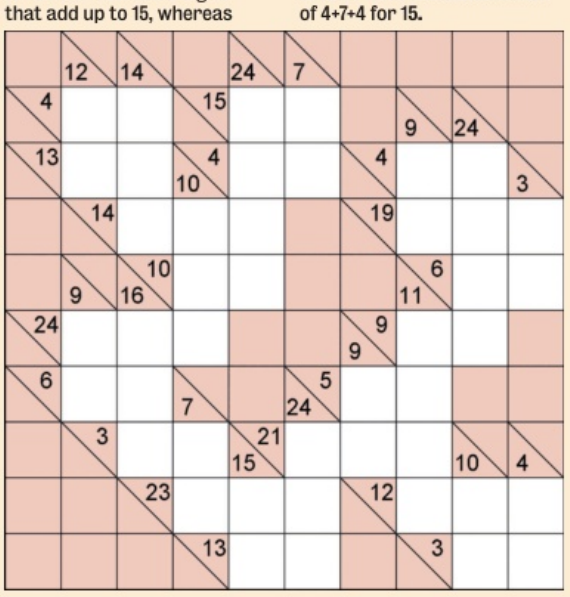
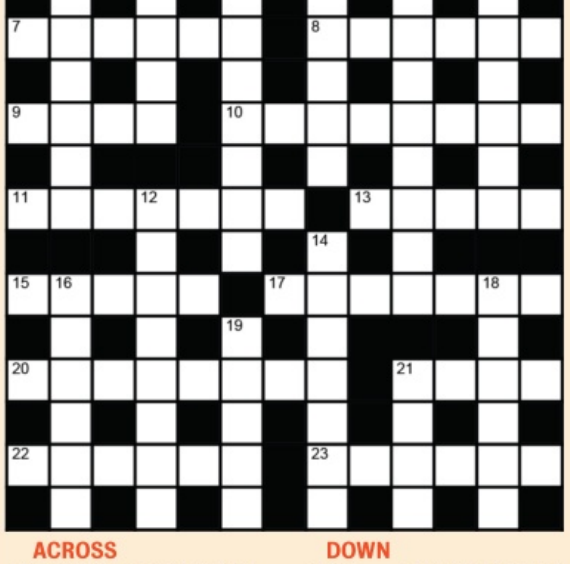


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Common or reciprocal (6)
8 Nepalese porter (6)
9 Bloke, cove, guy (4)
10 Revolt, rebellion or mutiny (8)
11 More arrogant (7)
13 Expenses (5)
15 Dwelling (5)
17 Small orange (7)
20 Domestic fuel before advent of gas and LPG? (8)
21 Betting machine (4)
22 Disease in plants (6)
23 Imitated (6)

DOWN

1 Pen ___ : a clerical worker? (6)
2 Drink very quickly (4)
3 Made indirect or casual mention (7)
4 Unjustly assume (5)
5 Stresses (8)
6 A small upright piano (6)
12 Minor (8)
14 Detachable security device (7)
16 On ___ of : in the interest of? (6)
18 Fingerless glove (6)
19 Something often said (5)
21 You will find the remnants of his fort in the City Market area (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: W EQUALS S

O WHPPLWWUHS VOZZAOEL ZLMHAZLW UOSSAFE AF SKGL VOFC BAVLW, OSDOCW DABY BYL WOVL QLZWKF.

Linemaro

You make me think of beautiful things, like strawberries

Mindchow

You yourself make the waves in your mind. If you leave the mind as it is, it will become calm

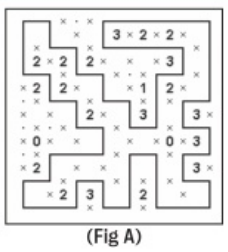
Joke of the day

Never employ someone who's obsessed with graphs. They'll always be plotting behind your back

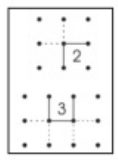
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

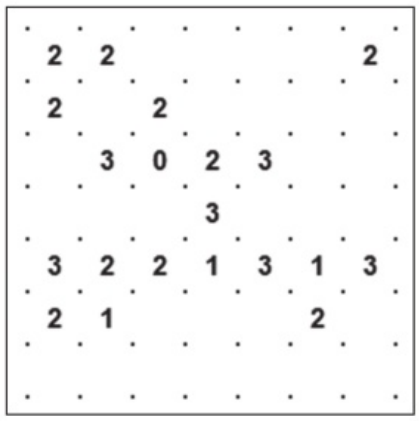


(Fig B) Not Allowed

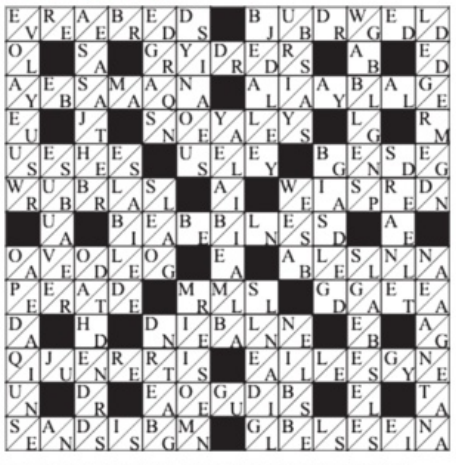
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



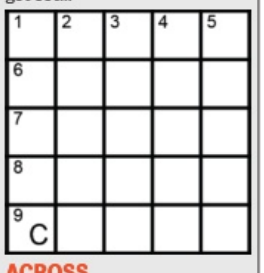
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

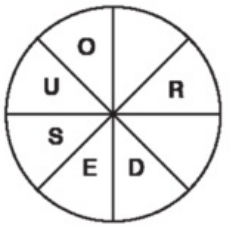
1 Cap is; 6 LAN us; 7 C Math; 8 A urea; 9 Or con

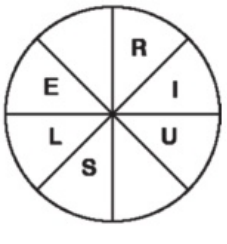
DOWN

1 Camus; 2 Purl a; 3 It nor; 4 A coca; 5 An she

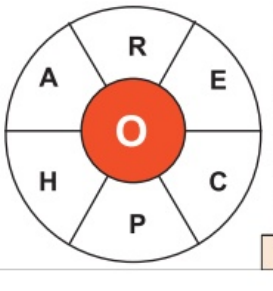
Mensapuzzle

Find the starting point and work anti-clockwise round each circle to find two types of creature, each eight letters long. You have to provide the missing letters.





Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

14 Average; 16 Good; 18 Outstanding

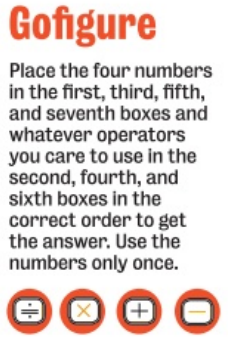
SudokuChallenge

		7	3	5				6
8	3		9			4		
							8	
3			6			1		
		5	8		1	2		
		2			3			9
	1							
		6			7		4	5
5				6	4	3		

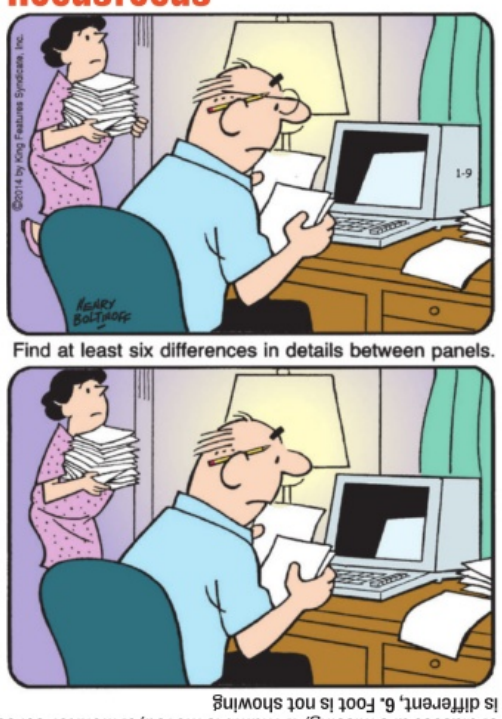
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

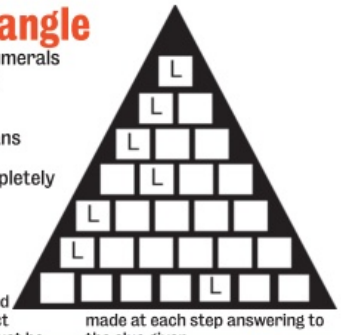
Differences: 1. Hand is not showing, 2. Paper is longer, 3. Glasses are missing, 4. Thumb is moved, 5. Monitor screen is different, 6. Foot is not showing

Riddler

I'm called the Evening star, or Morning star, It depends on when I'm seen. In the early 1960's I was wearing blue jeans.

Alpha triangle

1 Fifty in Roman numerals
2 Lutetium symbol
3 Tote
4 Garden pest
5 Respiratory organs
6 Fencing actions
7 Swallows up completely



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

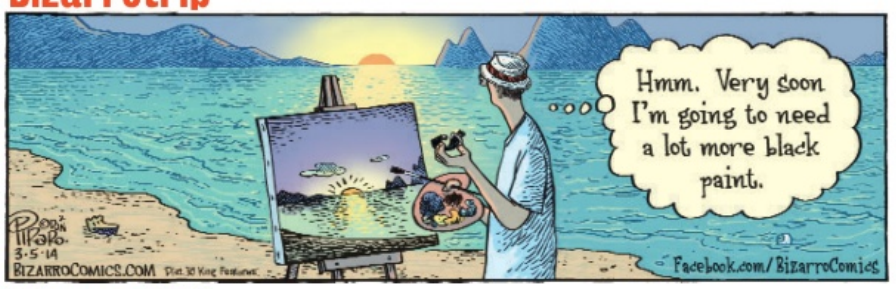
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

HUFF! PUFF!
WHAT'S WRONG, MOM?
A STRANGE MAN FOLLOWED ME ALL THE WAY HOME
THAT'S AWFUL!
9-19
I'LL SAY! THE LAST HUNDRED YARDS WERE ALL UPHILL!

Bizarrotrip



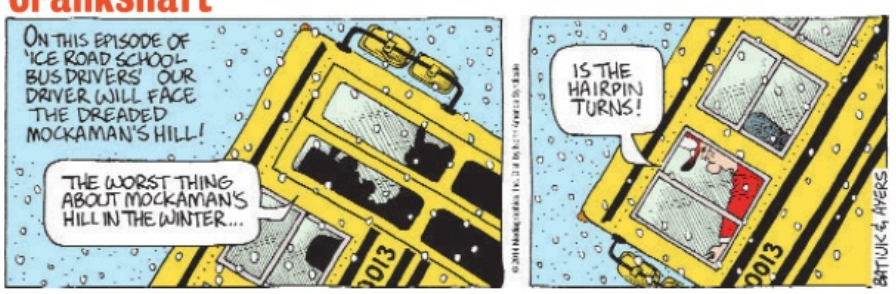
Diamond Lil

I'M ATTENDING A SENIORS NUTRITION CLASS
SENIORS NUTRITION CLASS? WHAT DO YOU DO THERE?
TODAY WE ALL BOOED A PLATE OF KALE
©2022 creators.com 9/6
www.creators.com
Bartlett

Hart of the city

SO I GUESS AT SOME POINT WE SHOULD START CLEANING UP, EH?
NAH, LET'S SIT IN IT A BIT LONGER. NOTHING SAYS YOU JUST HAD A GOOD TIME LIKE A BIG, FAT MESS!
© 2007 Mark Tatulli/Dist. by Universal Uclick
12-26

Crankshaft


ON THIS EPISODE OF 'ICE ROAD SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS' OUR DRIVER WILL FACE THE DREADED MOCKAMAN'S HILL!
THE WORST THING ABOUT MOCKAMAN'S HILL IN THE WINTER...
IS THE HAIRPIN TURNS!
2013
BRTUCK & AYERS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, children's education may keep you busy, and you might plan for their higher studies. Couples may receive good news regarding a child. You may consider updating your skills and making plans for higher studies to secure a promotion in your current job. Singles may find their soulmate. Individuals in the fields of education, consulting, and banking will fare well.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may feel dissatisfied and find it challenging to fulfil your responsibilities. Your investments may result in some losses. It's advisable to carefully read documents before signing them. Concerns about the health of elders may upset you. If you're planning to renovate your house, it is recommended to postpone the renovation for a while.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may be busy with work, and your network may expand, leading to a significant business or work order. Innovations in partnerships are likely. You may attract investments in your business, contributing to its growth. Your emotional relationship with your spouse is expected to improve.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may be occupied with family activities and find joy in spending time with loved ones. New sources of income may boost your financial health. Control over unnecessary expenditures is advised, and you may make worthwhile purchases to enhance your social status.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, blessings from elders may enhance your patience and focus, helping you achieve your goals. Your performance in both business and domestic life is likely to be strong, maintaining a balance between expenditures and savings. This may positively impact your savings.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, feelings of dissatisfaction may affect your productivity, leading to delays in projects. Lovebirds are advised to avoid making significant decisions about marriage. Job seekers may face disappointments in interviews.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, your inner strength may bring happiness, and you may experience short-term gains from investments. Building a good relationship with your boss could lead to promotions. Your prestige in society may increase, and work-related travel may be on the horizon.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, the moon's blessing may bring rewards for your hard work, improving your efficiency and confidence. You may encounter influential individuals who provide valuable guidance. Parental health is manageable at this time.

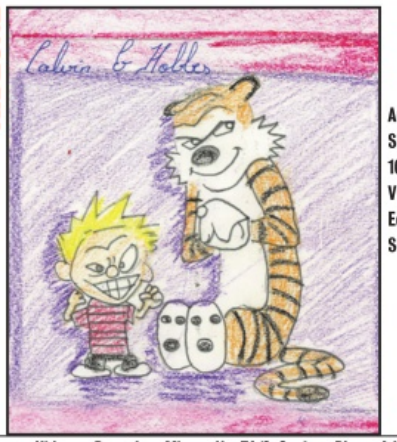
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, things may be somewhat better, bringing happiness. Planning a visit to a religious place may provide inner strength. Consider making charitable donations or planning overseas travel for education or work. Singles may find a suitable match.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, unhappiness may affect your work, causing delays in projects. It's advised to separate professional and domestic life to maintain harmony. Avoid adventurous activities or rash driving. Lovebirds may experience a break-up and job seekers may face disappointments in finding a new job.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may feel positive vibrations around you, with things under control. Planning to start a new business in partnership is favourable. Expect the possibility of long-distance travel. Building trust with your spouse will bring harmony to your domestic life.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may excel at work, establishing a good bond with your boss. New responsibilities and promotions may come your way. Chronic health issues may see improvement, and disputes with siblings may be resolved. Job seekers may find new employment opportunities.

KIDZONE



Anuradha Shenoy, 10 Years, Vidyamandir Education Society

Yashvardhan Agrawal, 7 Years, DPS (East)

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
$= 12^6/6 = (12/6)^6$
$= 2^6 = 64$

RIDDLER
Venus; Explanation: The planet Venus is often seen brightly in the evening sky, just after sunset, or in the morning sky, just before sunrise. It is often confused for a star, thus the name it is given. Venus in Blue Jeans was a hit in 1962 for Jimmy Clanton.

QUOTE UNCODE
A successful marriage requires falling in love many times, always with the same person.

FAST FIVE

S	P	I	C	A
U	L	N	A	S
M	A	T	C	H
A	U	R	A	E
C	R	O	O	N

STRIKE OUT

E	N	S	I	G	N	L	E	S	S	E
U	R	A	E	G	I	S	L	L	A	
Q	U	E	R	S	A	L	L	E	G	E
A	H	D	I	A	N	E	B	G		
P	E	T	E	R	M	S	D	A	T	E
O	V	O	L	O	A	B	E	L	L	A
A	B	A	B	L	E	D	A			
R	U	R	A	L	A	W	I	S	E	D
U	S	E	S	L	Y	B	E	D	E	
E	T	S	E	A	L	S	L	M		
Y	E	S	M	A	N	L	I	A	B	L	E
O	A	R	Y	D	E	R	A	E		
V	E	E	R	E	D	J	U	D	G	E	D

QUICK

P	G	A	U	L	S	H	E	R	P	A
F	E	O	K	U	N					
B	L	I	G	H	T	C	O	P	I	E	D
A	A	T	O	I	T					
C	H	A	R	C	O	A	L	T	O	T	E
E	E	M	D	I						
A	B	O	D	E	S	A	T	S	U	M	A
P	R	O	U	D	E	R	C	O	S	T	S
E	D	P	I	E						
C	H	A	P	U	P	R	I	S	I	N	G
S	L	U	N	I						
M	U	T	U	A	L	S	H	E	R	P	A

MENSA PUZZLE
DORMOUSE and SQUIRREL

BULL'S EYE
carhop, chop, chore, cope, core, crop, echo, epoch, hero, hope, ochre, opera, poach, POACHER, porch, pore, roach, rope

SUDOKU

2	4	7	3	5	8	9	9	6
8	3	1	9	7	6	4	5	2
6	5	9	4	1	2	7	8	3
3	9	4	6	2	5	1	7	8
7	6	5	8	9	1	2	3	4
1	8	2	7	4	3	6	5	9
4	1	3	5	8	9	6	2	7
9	2	6	1	3	7	8	4	5
5	7	8	2	6	4	3	9	1

ALPHA TRIANGLE
L, Lu, Lug, Slug, Lunges, Lunges, Engulfs.

GO FIGURE
Easy
$5 + 3 - 3 + 4 = 9$
Medium
$4 \times 4 - 6 + 9 = 19$
Hard
$2 - 5 + 5 / 2 = 1$

LOOP

KAKURO

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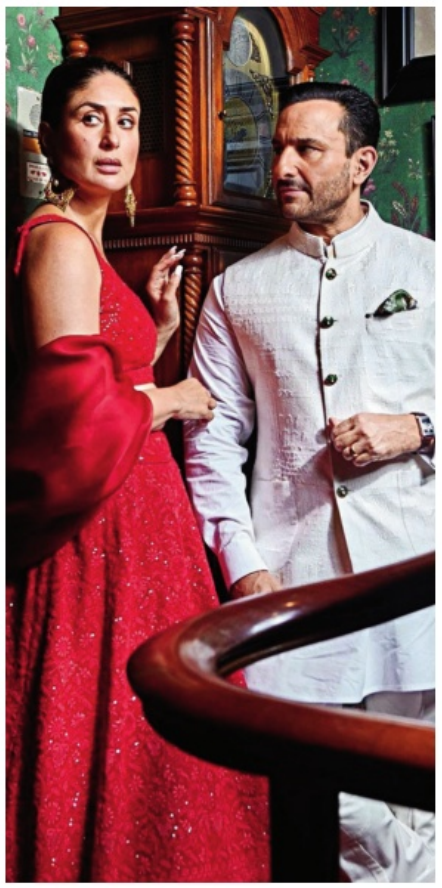
 # Marvel fires Jonathan Majors
Actor Jonathan Majors is said to have been fired by Marvel after he was found guilty of harassing and assaulting his ex-girlfriend Grace Jabbari

Friend, philosopher, guide

Kareena reveals it is her husband she turns to if she wants inspiration



Actress Kareena Kapoor Khan never fails to impress the audience, whether it be her acting skills, or her dance performances. Recently, the Golmaal' actress revealed that if she ever needs inspiration or guidance from any actor, it would undoubtedly be her husband, Saif Ali Khan. She admires his deep understanding of cinema and his passion for movies. The actress mentioned that SaifAli Khan enjoys watching films of various genres.

She added that it leads to conversations between them about movies, discussing their preferences and thoughts. Kareena Kapoor Khan expressed that she doesn't have to search too extensively for inspiration since she lives with one of her favourite actors, Saif. She acknowledged Saif's influence in encouraging her to take on challenging roles in movies like Sujoy Ghosh's 'Jaane Jaan' and Hansal Mehta's 'The Buckingham Murders'.

The actress also revealed it is also pathbreaking as he is one of the first actors who went to the OTT platform with 'Sacred Games'. Kareena added Saif has quite a crazy mind as an actor. He has been a risk taker, he is wild in his thoughts, he reads a lot, watches a lot of actors' interviews at 2 or 3 in the morning and she gets irritated. Meanwhile, on the work front, Kareena recently made her digital debut with the Netflix thriller 'Jaane Jaan'. Apart from this, she will be also seen in UK-based English film 'The Buckingham Murders' and two mainstream films, 'The Crew' and Singham Again. —ETimes

SANDALWOOD
SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Shock & awe

Choreographer Jaggu debuts as a director in Sandalwood with Chaya that is ready for release. Chaya's soundtrack was launched on Monday at SRV Theater. Nanda MR has backed the movie under the New Global Creations banner. Jaggu has worked as a choreographer for around 200 movies during the last two decades.

"The story is about some unexpected incidents at a software engineer's house when he invites his friend over after getting married. It is not a horror movie. It was ready three years ago but its release was delayed. We are planning to release this movie next month," said Jaggu.

Anand Arya, who has acted in Marakastra, Teju Raj, and Ananya play key characters in the movie that has got a UA certificate. Anand said, "This movie showcases the methods to punish rapists. I play the software engineer who makes his friends realise their mistakes," said Anand Arya. It is said producer Nanda wanted to become an actress but that didn't pan out. "When the director narrated the script to me he made it clear he can't offer me a role," said Nanda with a smile.

Divine blessings

The team of Bhairya KA-07 offered prayers to Goddess Muthyalamma seeking her blessings for their plan of putting up a huge set at HMT premises. Art director Hosamane Murthy will be putting up the set.

Roshan from Gauribidanur has written the script, screenplay and plays the lead in the movie. Rajiv Chandrakanth of Vijayapura debuts as an independent director with this movie while Shareefa Begum Nadaf of Bagalkot debuts as a producer. "It is my maiden movie as a director. I have worked as associate director for a few Kannada tele serials. I learnt the skills of direction by joining the team of associate directors working under the guidance of actor-cum-director TS Nagabharana," said Chandrakanth. On the proposed set, the director has said the work on the set meant for underworld don would begin in a few days. "We are planning to have a 10-day shooting at the HMT premises," the director said.

He said the story is about the incidents that took place at KGF, Chikkaballapur, Chintamani, Sidlaghatta between 1970 and 1985. "Roshan who plays the lead is a classical dancer," the director said.

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3 years / 100000 kms
*Conditions apply.
Extended Warranty
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Toyota Mobility Service
Conversion | Fleet | Leasing
KARNATAKA: Bengaluru: Nandi Toyota, Banashankari 2nd Stage Ph: 7022340713; Banaswadi Ph: 7022340713; Bannerghatta Main Road Ph: 7022340713; Bommanahalli Ph: 7022340713; Hosur Road Ph: 9945255800; Kanakapura Main Road Ph: 9740409858; Queens Road Ph: 9741310066; Whitefield Ph: 7022340713; Ravindu Toyota, K R Puram Ph: 8058245555; Magadi Road Ph: 8058245555; Marathahalli Ph: 8058245555; Rajajinagar Ph: 8058245555; Victoria Road Ph: 8058245555; Yeshwanthpur Ph: 8058245555; Viva Toyota, Airport Road, Hunasamarahalli Ph: 9900030617; Hebbal Ph: 9900027736; Kogilu, Yelahanka Ph: 9900030617; Mysore Road Ph: 9900030620; Vidayaranyapura Ph: 9900027736; Bagalkot: Shodha Toyota, Navnagar Ph: 8147599463; Belgaum: Shodha Toyota, Bastwad Village Ph: 8147599461; Poona-Bangalore Road Ph: 9880185008; Bellary: BJS Toyota, Bisalahalli Road Ph: 7829927958; Bijapur: Shodha Toyota, Chitradurga Sholapur Road, NH-50 Ph: 9606484983; Chikkamagaluru: Shakti Toyota, Kadur Bypass Road Ph: 9686652728; Davangere: Shodha Toyota, Harihar Road Ph: 9008952277; Gulbarga: Karuna Toyota, Bilgundi Garden Ph: 7829990025; Hassan: Shakti Toyota, Katihalli Industrial Area Ph: 9686652728; Hospet: BJS Toyota, Rajeev Nagar Ph: 7829927905; Hubli: Shodha Toyota, Hubli-Dharwad Road Ph: 9606454722; Kodagu: Palace Toyota, Kushalnagara Ph: 7022671919; Kolar: Ravindu Toyota, P C Halli Ph: 8058245555; Madikeri: Palace Toyota, Cauvery Hall Ph: 7022671919; Mandya: Palace Toyota, Guttalu Grama Ph: 9538874907; Mangalore: United Toyota, Bunt's Hostel Ph: 9686687581; Padil Ph: 9686687581; Mysore: Palace Toyota, Hootagalli Ph: 9538874906; Krishnamurthy Puram Ph: 9538874923; Puttur: United Cars Private Limited, Ph: 9686687581; Raichur: Near Yermers Camp Cross, Hyderabad Road Ph: 7829990021; Shivamogga: Shakti Toyota, Bypass Road Ph: 9686652728; Sagar: Shakti Toyota, BH Road Ph: 08183200402; Tumkur: Ravindu Toyota, Sadashivnagar Ph: 8058245555; Udupi: United Toyota, Udyavara Ph: 9686687581.
dentsu/bm blr/03/23